

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF REGENTS

Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium

May 9, 2005

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium of the Board of Regents was held on Monday, May 9, 2005 at 12:30 p.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: David Metzen, presiding; John Frobenius and Lakeesha Ransom. Clyde Allen participated by phone.

Staff present: Senior Vice President and Provost Thomas Sullivan; Vice Presidents Kathryn Brown and Kathleen O'Brien; General Counsel Mark Rotenberg; and Executive Director Ann Cieslak.

Student Representatives: Tom Zearley.

**RESOLUTION RELATED TO SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL STADIUM,
TWIN CITIES CAMPUS**

Vice President O'Brien described the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed on-campus football stadium on the Twin Cities campus. She explained the role of the Board of Regents as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) and the importance of the committee making an objective determination of the adequacy of the EIS. O'Brien introduced University Budget Officer Brian Swanson and Chris Hiniker of Short, Eliot, Hendricksen, Inc. to give the presentation to the committee.

Swanson and Hiniker provided an overview of the project, described the process of developing the EIS, Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), and Scoping Decision Document (SDD), and summarized public comments received on the draft SDD. The presenters highlighted the following:

- The EIS process is separated into three phases: Phase 1 is comprised of preparation of the SDD and scoping EAW and a public comment period; Phase 2 is comprised of preparation of the draft EIS and a second public comment period; and Phase 3 is comprised of preparation of the final EIS and determination of adequacy by the RGU.
- The SDD identifies the topics requiring analysis and those not requiring analysis in the EIS and logs comments received during the initial public comment period.
- The two alternatives identified in the SDD are 1) a build option of a 50,000 seat stadium with related site and district improvements and 2) a no-build option requiring continued use of the Metrodome.
- The following topics require further analysis in the EIS: land use and site contamination; cover types; water use; erosion and sedimentation; surface water quantity and quality; water quality and wastewater; geologic hazards and soil conditions; solid waste, hazardous waste, and storage tanks; traffic and parking; stationary source air emissions; vehicle related air emissions;

odors, noise, and dust from operations and construction; visual impacts; compatibility with plans; impact on infrastructure; cumulative effects; and social, community, and economic effects.

Hiniker summarized the comments received from local and state government entities, neighborhood groups, and residents. He observed that comments were directed at several different topics including site contamination, traffic and parking, stormwater management, and the cumulative effects of this project on other projects in the area.

In response to a question from Regent Frobenius, Swanson explained that the EIS only addresses the current proposal for a stadium with a 50,000 seat capacity and does not account for potential expansion. He added that if the stadium was expanded at some point in the future, a new EIS process would need to be undertaken regardless of whether the expansion is accounted for in the current EIS.

In response to a question from Regent Ransom, consulting attorney Tom Johnson of Gray, Plant, Mooty confirmed that the SDD complies with all applicable law and that all legal requirements have been met.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the resolution related to the scoping decision document for the proposed development on an intercollegiate football stadium, Twin Cities campus.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary